

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 596

By Casada

A RESOLUTION recognizing Cedar Lane Farm I, a Tennessee Century Farm.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that this General Assembly should honor and recognize those exceptional farming families who, through their dedication to the ancient and esteemed traditions of agriculture, have made significant contributions to their respective communities and to this State; and

WHEREAS, the Walker and McCord families of Williamson County certainly rank among those estimable Tennessee farming families; Cedar Lane Farm I, owned and operated by the family since 1896, has been designated a Tennessee Century Farm in recognition of its long and illustrious history; and

WHEREAS, the Tennessee Century Farms Program recognizes those families who have owned and farmed the same land for over a century, and also documents and interprets the State's history and culture of farming; and

WHEREAS, located twenty miles south of Franklin, Cedar Lane Farm was established in 1896 by James Walker; Mr. Walker was married to Rebecca Cathy Walker, and the couple had three children: Laura Ann Walker McCord, John B. Walker, and Sara Ellen Walker; and

WHEREAS, during Mr. Walker's day, the 187-acre farm produced corn, wheat, cattle, hogs, horses, cotton, broom corn, and chickens; and

WHEREAS, the next owner of the farm was James' daughter, Laura Ann Walker McCord, who was married to William F. McCord and had two children; during Mrs. McCord's ownership, Cedar Lane Farm produced corn, cotton, hay, tobacco, and broom corn, and the family also raised hogs, cattle, horses, and chickens; and

WHEREAS, in 1932, Laura gave her son, Walker Leland McCord, the land; he was married to Annie Lou Reed McCord, and the couple had two children, Laura Elizabeth McCord Crunk and Dorothy Louise McCord Ryan; and

WHEREAS, Walker continued to raise the same livestock and crops as his parents and also added goats, sheep, and ducks; and

WHEREAS, in 1999, the great-granddaughter of the founder, Dorothy Louise McCord Ryan, became the owner of the property that is now Cedar Lane Farm I; Dorothy still owns the land today, but it is leased for pasture; and

WHEREAS, the success of the State, the strength of its communities, and the overall vitality of our society depend, in great measure, on the dedication of people such as the members of the Walker and McCord families, who have demonstrated a deep respect for tradition and hard work and a love for the land; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we honor and congratulate owner Dorothy McCord Ryan, whose Cedar Lane Farm I has been designated a Tennessee Century Farm, commend Ms. Ryan and her family for their dedication to agriculture, and wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.